

CFR 1.182 or alternatively under 37 CFR 1.378 to reinstate the patent. The petition was mailed to the PTO on October 18, 2002.

Claims 1-15 and 19-26 were rejected based upon a defective reissue declaration. The applicants respectfully disagree. The Examiner refers to two declarations, one filed with the application and the Supplemental Declaration filed December 27, 2001. The applicants have filed three declarations. Another Supplemental Declaration was mailed December 18, 2000 (see Appendix 3). The applicants believe that the original reissue declaration is proper because, this application contains the original broadened filed reissue claims (claims 1-15). The applicants filed two supplemental declarations, one set on December 18, 2000, which specifically referred to the following two prior art references: US patent 3,192,276 and JACS. The applicants have enclosed a fourth declaration with this paper (see Appendix 4) which also refers to the other previous declarations. The applicants believe that in view of combining all four declarations, this rejection should be withdrawn.

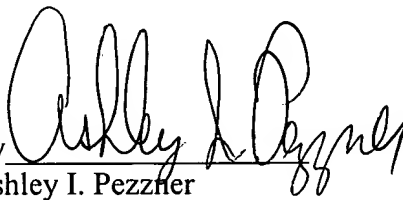
No additional fee is due. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, including any fees required for an additional extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136, such an extension is requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants believe that the claims are patentable over the references cited and applied by the Examiner. A prompt and favorable action is solicited.

The applicants believe that these claims are in condition for allowance, however, if the Examiner disagrees, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at (302) 888-6270.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

By   
Ashley I. Pezzner  
Registration No. 35,646  
Telephone: 302-888-6270

Appendix 1- copy of signatory authority  
Appendix 2- copy of Petition to reinstate patent  
Appendix 3- Supplemental Declaration mailed December 18, 2000.  
Appendix 4- Fourth Declaration executed January 3, 2002.

234444